

Syllabus



Sandrine Boudana

Media, War and Peace

Course description

This course focuses on the media coverage of war and proposes to analyze and discuss the dilemmas that journalists have to face when reporting on war, as well as the media's role in, and influence on, conflicts and conflict resolution.

The course provides sociological and historical approaches to war correspondence, from Thucydides' account of the Peloponnesian War to the current 'war on terrorism', through the two World Wars and the Cold War. In this perspective, we will analyze the evolution of media norms and practices, in the field as well as in the phase of news reporting. The discussion will focus on the war correspondents' roles as victims, actors or denounciators of propaganda endeavours and will be nourished by a reflection on the responsibility of journalists for the evolution of armed conflicts.

Major References

Hallin, Daniel C. (1989) *The Uncensored War. The Media and Vietnam*. University of California Press

Knightley, Phillip (2002) *The First Casualty: The War Correspondent as Hero and Myth-Maker from the Crimea to Kosovo*. The Johns Hopkins University Press

Sontag, Susan (2003) *Regarding the Pain of Others*. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux

Assignments

This course has four requirements: active in-class participation, presentation of a class reading, a mid-term examination in class and a take-home final examination. All requirements must be completed in order to pass the course.

- (1) Active and informed in-class participation: Attendance is required, and any absences must be cleared in advance with me.
- (2) In-class presentation. During the semester, each of you will present a brief (10 minutes) critique of one of the week's recommended readings
- (3) In-class midterm exam (1h30min.): It consists of 5 to 7 questions on the crucial concepts and ideas studied in the first part of the course.
- (4) Take-home final paper: Essay (10 to 15 pages -- due at the end of the semester)

These requirements will count toward your final grade as follows:

Active, Informed Participation in Class Discussions 20 percent

In-Class Presentation 15 percent

In-Class Midterm Exam 25 percent

Take-Home Final Paper 40 percent

Schedule of Classes, Readings and Assignments

Week One: Introduction

History of war coverage: key dates

Sociology of war correspondence: standards, practices and public perception

Political involvement of war correspondents: manipulation and propaganda, dilemmas, role in conflict resolution

Week 2: Lessons from the first wars covered

Thucydides' History of the Peloponnesian War: an objective record of the past or a piece of literature?

William Howard Russell and the Crimean War: the first modern war coverage?

The Russo-Japanese War and the telegraph: the role of communication technology

Reading

Knightley, Phillip (1982) Chapter 1 "'The Miserable Parent of a Luckless Tribe' 1854-1856" in *The First Casualty: The War Correspondent as Hero and Myth-Maker from the Crimea to Kosovo*. London: Quartet Books: 3-17

Thucydides (Author); Strassler, Robert B. (Editor); Crawley, Richard (Translator), Hanson, Victor Davis (Introduction) (1998) *Introduction to The Landmark Thucydides: A Comprehensive Guide to the Peloponnesian War*. Free Press: ix-xxiv

Recommended

Brown, Charles Henry (1967) *The Correspondents' War: Journalists in the Spanish-American War*. Scribner

Krigas, E. J. (2009) *Thucydides as a War Correspondent and Philosopher In Classical Greece*. Authorhouse: 1-48

Tritle, Lawrence A. (2004) Chapter 2: "Thucydides explains the causes of war" in *The Peloponnesian War*. Greenwood Press: 19-32

Week 3: The development of war photography

Fenton's photographs of the Crimean War

Brady and Gardner's photographs of the American Civil War

The impact of technical innovations

War propaganda and war as a spectacle

Reading

Daniel, Malcolm (2004) "A Note on Early Photographic Techniques", in Baldwin, Gordon; Daniel, Malcolm and Greenough, Sarah (With contributions by Richard Pare, Pam Roberts and Roger Taylor); *All the Mighty World. The Photographs of Roger Fenton, 1852-1860*. New Haven and London: Yale University Press: xii-xiii.

Gernsheim, Helmut (1986) *A Concise History of Photography*. New York: Dover Publications. 3rd edition: 64-66

Sontag, Susan (2003) Chapters 1 and 2 in *Regarding the Pain of Others*. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux: 1-39

Recommended

Baldwin, Gordon; Daniel, Malcolm and Greenough, Sarah (2004). *All the Mighty World. The Photographs of Roger Fenton, 1852-1860*. New Haven and London: Yale University Press: 1-24

Fenton, Roger (1987) *Roger Fenton*. With an Essay by Richard Pare. Series: *Aperture Masters of Photography*, Number 4. Series designed by Alan Richardson: 5-11

Roger Fenton, *Photographer of the 1850s* (1988). Introduction by Valerie Lloyd. Catalogue produced by Yale University Press: London for the South Bank Board: 1-9 and 14-16

Gernsheim, Helmut and Alison Helmut (1954) *Roger Fenton, Photographer of the Crimean War. His Photographs and his Letters from the Crimea*. With an Essay on his Life and Work. London: Secker & Warburg

Houston, Natalie M. (2001) "Reading the Victorian Souvenir: Sonnets and Photographs of the Crimean War", *The Yale Journal of Criticism*, vol. 14, no2, Fall 2001, pp. 353-383

Lewinski, Jorge (1986) "Part One: Distant Witness (1848-1912)" in *The camera at war: a history of war photography from 1848 to the present day*. Hamlyn: 33-49.

Week 4: The Great War and propaganda

Propaganda techniques

Bernays and the role of the PR

The end of innocence (Lippmann)

Reading

Bernays, Edward L. (2004 [1928]) "The psychology of public relations" in *Propaganda*. IG Publishing: 71-82

Knightley, Phillip (2002) Chapter 4: "The Last War: 1914-1918" in *The First Casualty: The War Correspondent as Hero and Myth-Maker from the Crimea to Kosovo*. London: Quartet Books: 63-96

Recommended

Andersen, Robin (2006) *A Century of Media, A Century of War*, Chapter 1, "The Great War and the Fight between Good and Evil: The Birth of War Propaganda": 3-18. New York: Peter Lang Publishing

Keppinger, Hans Mathias; Brosius, Hans-Bernd and Staab, Joachim Friedrich (1991) "Instrumental Actualization: A Theory of Mediated Conflicts", *European Journal of Communication*, Vol.6, no.3: 263-290

Farrar, Martin J. (1988) *News from the Front: War Correspondents on the Western Front, 1914-1918*. Thrupp, Stroud, Gloucestershire: Sutton

Lasswell, Harold, D. (1971 [1934]) *Propaganda Technique in World War I*. Cambridge, Mass: The M.I.T. Press

Nicholas Reeves Imperial War Museum (1986) *Official British Film Propaganda during the First World War*. London; Wolfeboro, N.H.: C. Helm Society for Socialist Inquiry and Propaganda (Great Britain) (1932-) *What everybody should know about propaganda, how and why it works*. London

Week 5: Commitment in the Spanish Civil War

Hemingway: between journalism and literature

Robert Capa's photographs

Reading

Brothers, Caroline (1997) Chapter 2: "The Republican Militiamen" and Chapter 3: "Insurgent Soldiers and Moors", in *War and Photography: A Cultural History*. Routledge: 35-57 and 58-75.

Recommended

Rankin, Nicholas (2003) *Telegram from Guernica*. Faber & Faber

Martin, Russell (2000) *Picasso's War: the destruction of Guernica, and the masterpiece that changed the world*. Dutton

Week 6: World War II: the media on all fronts

Journalists as team players or truth tellers?

The question of censorship

The role of radio and cinema

Reading

Keller, Marcello (2007) "Why Is Music So Ideological, Why Do Totalitarian States Take It So Seriously: A Personal View From History, and the Social Sciences" in *Journal of Musicological Research*, XXVI, no. 2-3: 91-122

Rae Hark, I. (1999). "We might even get in the newsreels: The press and democracy in Hitchcock's World War II anti-fascist films" in A. Richard & S. Ishii-Gonzal'es (eds.), *Alfred Hitchcock centenary essays*. British Film Institute: 333-347

Recommended

Collier, Richard (1989) *Fighting Words: The War Correspondents of World War II*. New York: St. Martin's Press

Horten, Gerd (2002) *Radio Goes to War: The Cultural Politics of Propaganda during World War II*. University of California Press: 1-88

Roeder, George (1993) "War as a Way of Seeing", in *The Censored War: American Visual Experience during World War Two*. Yale University: 81-104

Wagner, Lilya (1989) *Women War Correspondents of World War II*. Greenwood Press

Week 7: The controversial role of journalists in the Cold War

The Cold War and McCarthyism

The controversial coverage of the Vietnam War

The role of television

The influence of Literary Journalism

Reading

Bernhard, Nancy (2003) Chapter 7: "The most vigorous anticommunist campaign: Objectivity and consensus journalism" in *U.S. Television News and Cold War Propaganda, 1947-1960*: 155-177. Cambridge University Press

Hallin, Daniel C. (1989) Introduction to and Conclusion of *The "Uncensored War": The Media and Vietnam*. University of California Press: 3-12 and 211-216

Recommended

Andersen, Robin (2006) Chapter 4, "Vietnam: Shattered Illusions" in *A Century of Media, A Century of War*. New York: Peter Lang Publishing: 47-68

Elwood-Akers, Virginia (1988) *Women War Correspondents in the Vietnam War, 1961-1975*. Metuchen, NJ: The Scarecrow Press

Hoskins, Andrew (2004) *Televising war: from Vietnam to Iraq*. New York and London: Continuum International: 16-20

Week 8: The image of war correspondents in popular culture

The cult of the war correspondent

From the myth of the hero/martyr to the image of the activist/disillusioned observer

Videos

The Image of the War Correspondent in Movies and TV, 1931 - 2007, produced by IJPC program of the Annenberg School for Communication and screened at the 2009 conference of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication

Extract from Hitchcock's *Foreign Correspondent* (1941)

Midterm examination

Week 9: War correspondents in the field

The importance of logistics and access to the field

Embedded journalism and military journalists: Dilemmas

Statistics of death, injuries and abduction

Reading

Ignatus, David (2010) "The dangers of embedded journalism, in war and politics", *Washington Post*, Sunday, May 2, 2010

(<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/04/30/AR2010043001100.html?sid=ST2010043001134>)

Linfield, Susie (2010) Chapter 7: "Robert Capa: The Optimist", in *The Cruel Radiance: Photography and Political Violence*. University of Chicago Press: 174-202.

Orme, William A. Jr (2007) "Protection of Journalists", in Roy Gutman, David Rieff and Anthony Dworkin (eds.) *Crimes of War*. New York, London: Norton: 270-273.

Tuosto, Kylie (2008) "The Grunt Truth of Embedded Journalism: The New Media/Military Relationship", *Stanford Journal of International Relations*. Vol. X, n°1: 20-31

Recommended

Foerstel, Herbert N. (2006) *Killing the Messenger: Journalists at Risk in Modern Warfare*. Westport, CT: Praeger

Committee to Protect Journalists (2010) "Attacks on the Press 2009" (<http://www.cpj.org/attacks/>)

Week 10: Fairness in reporting

Involvement versus detachment as a central dilemma

Comparison between American and French models of journalism

Labeling the participants

Framing the reported event

Reading

Boudana, Sandrine (2010) "On the values guiding the French practices of journalism. Interviews with thirteen war correspondents", *Journalism* 11 (3): 293-310

Entman, Robert M. (1993) "Framing: Toward Clarification of a Fractured Paradigm", *Journal of Communication* 43 (4): 51-68

Recommended

Gilboa, Eytan (2002) *Media and conflict: framing issues, making policy, shaping opinions*. Ardsley, New York: Transnational Publishers

Hackett, Robert, A. (1984) "Decline of a Paradigm? Bias and Objectivity in News Media Studies", *Critical Studies in Mass Communication*, vol.1, n°3 (September): 229-259

Jonhson-Cartee, Karen S. (2005) *News narratives and news framing: constructing political reality*. Lanham: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers.

Labov, William (1997) "Some Further Steps in Narrative Analysis", *The Journal of Narrative and Life History*: 395-415

Week 11: War as a spectacle

The Gulf War as a videogame

The evolution of war images

Democracy in wartime

Reading

Baudrillard, Jean (1995) *The Gulf War did not take place*. Indiana University Press: 1-15

Hoskins, Andrew (2004) *Televising war: from Vietnam to Iraq*. New York and London: Continuum International: 45-76

Recommended

Fialka, John J. (1992) *Hotel Warriors: Covering the Gulf War*. Woodrow Wilson Center Press

Ottosen, Rune (1992) "The Media and the Gulf War Reporting: Advertising for the Arms Industry?", *Bulletin of Peace Proposals*, vol. 23 (1): 61-73

Smith, Hedrick (1992) *The Media and the Gulf War/the Press and Democracy in Wartime*. Seven Locks Press

Week 12: Is Peace Journalism the solution?

The conflict in former Yugoslavia and the emergence of Peace Journalism

Picturing the "other": The case of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict

Reading

Hanitzsch, Thomas (2004) "Journalists as peacekeeping force? Peace journalism and mass communication theory", *Journalism Studies* 5 (4): 483-95
Liebes, Tamar and Kampf, Zohar (2009) "Black and White and Shades of Gray: Palestinians in the Israeli Media During the 2nd Intifada", *The International Journal of Press/Politics* 14: 434-453
Wigoder, Meir (2004) "Revisiting the Oslo Peace Process and the Intifada: A conversation with Eldad Rafeali, an Israeli photojournalist", *Journalism* 5 (4): 500-518

Recommended

Chalaby, Jean K. (1996) "Journalism as an Anglo-American invention: A comparison of the development of French and Anglo-American journalism, 1830s-1920s", *European Journal of Communication*, 11: 303-326
Galtung, Johan, "On the role of the media in worldwide security and peace", in Tapio Varis (ed.), *Peace and Communication*: 249-266
Knightley, Philip (2002) "Journalism, conflict and war: An introduction", *Journalism Studies* 3(2): 167-71
Lynch, Jake (2005), "War and Peace Journalism in the Holy Land", *Social Alternatives*, vol.24, n°1
Lynch, Jake and McGoldrick, Annabel (2005) *Peace Journalism*. United Kingdom: Hawthorn Press, Stroud
Spencer, Graham (2005) *The Media and Peace: From Vietnam to the 'war on terror'*. New York: Palgrave Macmillan

Week 13: Media and terrorism

Terrorism needs the media
Evolution of the coverage of terrorist attacks in Israel

Reading

Griffin, Michael (2004) "Picturing America's 'War on Terrorism' in Afghanistan and Iraq", *Journalism* 5 (4): 381-402
Zizek, Slavoj (2002) *Welcome to the Desert of the Real*. Verso. Selected extracts

Recommended

Iskandar, Adel (2006) "'The Great American Bubble': Fox News Channel, the 'Mirage' of Objectivity, and the Isolation of American Public Opinion" in Lee Artz and Yahya Bring 'Em On: *Media and Politics in the Iraq War*. Lanham, Md.: Rowman & Littlefield Publishers
Goldstein, Sol (2008) "A Strategic Failure: American Information Control Policy in Occupied Iraq", *Military Review* 88.2 (March 2008): 58-65
Kuypers, Jim A. (2006). *Bush's War: Media Bias and Justifications for War in a Terrorist Age*. Rowman & Littlefield Publisher
Lamonaca, Marianne; Schleuning, Sarah and Sternlieb, Leslie (2004) *Weapons of mass dissemination: the propaganda of war*. Miami Beach, Florida: Wolfsonian-Florida International University
Lustick, Ian S. (2006) *Trapped in the War on Terror*. University of Pennsylvania Press
Rampton, Sheldon and Stauber, John (2003) *Weapons of Mass Deception: The Uses of Propaganda in Bush's War on Iraq*. New York: Jeremy P. Tarcher/Putnam

Week 14: The impact of new media

From the CNN effect to the influence of social media
The role of the media in the Arab Revolutions

Reading

Gilboa, Eytan (2005) "The CNN Effect: The Search for a Communication Theory of International Relations", *Political Communication*. Vol. 22 (1): 27-44
Wolfsfeld, Gadi; Segev, Elad and Sheaffer, Tamir (2013) "Social Media and the Arab Spring: Politics Comes First", *Journal of Press/Politics* 18: 115-137

Recommended

Center for Defense Information (1995) *The "CNN Effect": TV and Foreign Policy*. America's Defense Monitor transcript
Livingston, Steven (1997) *Clarifying the CNN Effect: An Examination of Media Effects According to Type of Military Intervention*. John F. Kennedy School of Government's Joan Shorenstein Center on the Press, Politics and Public Policy at Harvard University
Robinson, Piers (2002) *The CNN Effect: The Myth of News, Foreign Policy and Intervention*. Routledge
Smith, Perry M. (1991) *How CNN Fought the War*. New York: Birch Lane Press Book